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1. American Psychological Association*

(Special consultative status granted in 2000)

The American Psychological Association (APA), a non-governmental organization with 140,000 members, is the largest and oldest psychological association in the world. The goals of the American Psychological Association, as stated in the Association's bylaws, are to advance psychology as a science and profession and as a means of promoting health, education and human welfare. The Association is dedicated to understanding commonalities and differences in human behaviour and to promoting human development and welfare in both national and global contexts. Much of APA's work, which is carried out by governance, by directorates on public interest, education, science and practice, and by over 50 membership divisions, reflects such concerns as ageing, children, gender, racial equality and AIDS, which are addressed by the Council and other United Nations bodies. The Association has had no major changes over the past four years, aside from fluctuations in the membership and budget.

During the 2000 to 2003 period, APA held consultative relationships with UNICEF and the Department of Public Information, in addition to its accreditation with the Council. The Association participated in CONGO and worked with a number of NGOs, United Nations offices and diplomatic missions on international public policy regarding a broad range of issues to which it contributed psychological and mental health perspectives.

Participation in the work of the Council and major conferences

During the 2000-2003 period, the American Psychological Association actively engaged with other NGOs and Governments in the work of the following General Assembly special sessions, including the five-year review of the Fourth World Conference on Women; the Millennium Summit; the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS; and the preparatory process for and the special session of the General Assembly on children (2002).

APA was also active in the preparatory processes for and the World Conference against Racism. Similarly, APA was centrally involved in the Second World Assembly on Ageing. APA was also represented at the World Summit on an Information Society.

APA representatives followed the ongoing work of the functional commissions, in particular the Commission on the Status of Women (2001, 2002 and 2003), the Commission on Social Development (2002 and 2003), and the Commission on Human Rights (2001, 2002 and 2003). The Association was represented at the United Nations Asia-Pacific Regional Disarmament Conference (2001) and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples (2002 and 2003). The Association's aim at those meetings was to contribute to the appraisal of progress on various action plans and to propose psychological and other effective strategies for addressing persisting and emerging issues through position papers and educational panels.

* Issued without formal editing.

Cooperation with the United Nations

Apart from attendance at the weekly DPI/NGO briefings, APA representatives cooperated with other NGOs and the Department to plan three briefings: on follow-up to the special session on children; on international migration to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; and to commemorate the fourteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. APA representatives also attended the DPI/NGO annual conferences.

During the 2000-2003 period, APA addressed children's issues through its co-leadership role on the NGO committee on children's rights and through periodic consultations with staff in several offices within the Division of Policy and Planning of UNICEF. The purpose of those consultations was to facilitate cooperation with UNICEF on implementation of its medium-term strategic priorities, the Millennium Development Goals, and the goals of the special session on children. APA representatives also held membership in the NGO Committee on UNICEF and two of its working groups, on girls and on children in armed conflict.

Through its representation on the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on Mental Health, APA contributed to integrating psychosocial and mental health issues and perspectives into the United Nations agenda.

APA participated in a UNESCO world of education meeting on 18 and 19 February 2003.

Initiatives undertaken in support of the United Nations

APA worked with numerous NGO committees and caucuses to implement United Nations human rights conventions, resolutions and outcome documents of major conferences. Those efforts included drafting position statements and recommendations to influence United Nations consensus on policy documents; participating in panels and other programmes to educate people about United Nations conventions and the action plans of world conferences and to develop dialogue about their implementation; and providing outreach to United Nations agency representatives and Governments in monitoring progress on implementation of United Nations conventions and action plans.

APA actively promoted discussion of various aspects of the United Nations agenda in its proceedings and publications, as well as at meetings of local, regional, national and international organizations of psychologists. The programmes of the Association's annual conventions have included symposia on children's, women's and racism issues.

2. Asia-Japan Women's Resource Centre*

(Special consultative status granted in 2000)

The Asia-Japan Women's Resource Centre was established in 1995 as an extension of the Asian Women's Association (AWA), one of a few women's organizations in Japan that has been actively involved in activities from a gender

* Issued without formal editing.

and North-South perspective and with a critical view of Japan's role in Asia for the last two decades. In order to strengthen AWA, which has been run only by volunteers, it was decided to establish Asia-Japan Women's Resource Centre with regular staff and a new vision for the twenty-first century. The Centre is self-financing, mainly supported by membership fees from some 900 members.

The Centre facilitates discussion and action for women in Asia to envision an alternative future society based on gender justice, ecology and local and global democracy. The Centre wants to replace the Asia of GNP-centred development with an Asia of human rights in the twenty-first century.

The Centre also provides venues for Japanese women to think, discuss and act, to share information and experience with other Asian women and to extend women's networks inside and outside of Japan for the purpose of the empowerment of women.

The Centre's activities include issuing publications; offering training seminars; conducting research; coordinating conferences in Japan and abroad; advocating and campaigning; and promoting international cooperation and solidarity.

Activities in 2000-2003: conferences and meetings related to the United Nations attended by the Centre

2000

Special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". The Centre organized an NGO workshop on "comfort women" issues.

2001

Forty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women; World Conference against Racism; Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. The Centre organized a workshop about the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Japan.

2002

Fifty-fourth session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

2003

Fifty-fifth session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

Other activities

During 2002-2003, the Centre convened a number of workshops and seminars on such topics as nationalism and gender, gender and development and violence against women. It also sponsored lectures and discussions with women from such countries as Afghanistan, India and Pakistan, and conducted women's study tours to a number of Asian countries.

3. Asian Women in Cooperative Development

(Special consultative status granted in 2000)

The Asian Women in Cooperative Development forum (AWCF) is a resource and advocacy body on gender and cooperatives in Asia. It was established for the purpose of addressing and integrating gender concerns in cooperative structures, policies, programmes, projects and services. AWCF was organized in the awareness that gender inequalities exist in cooperatives, particularly in terms of how their principles and values are put into practice. AWCF was built on the strong belief that cooperatives, by their very nature as people-based and democratically run and managed socio-economic institutions, have the values, the infrastructure and the resources to bring about gender equity, improved gender relations, and improved condition of the economically and socially disadvantaged, many of whom are women. AWCF's goals are to advocate and enable cooperative organizations to pursue the gender agenda of gender equity, gender equality and empowerment of women; to facilitate the development and installation of mechanisms to enable women to participate actively and effectively in the cooperative movements as members and as leaders, and benefit from it equitably; and to enable women and men to work together in cooperative movements as partners who have equal access to opportunities in different contexts. These goals are attained through AWCF programmes and services, such as gender-mainstreaming activities, putting more women in leadership and decision-making positions, making women more enterprising and entrepreneurial, and through regional policy advocacy and the organization of regional conferences and forums.

Participation in United Nations meetings

AWCF and its members actively participated in preparations for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the DPI/NGO annual conference on the theme "NGOs today: diversity of the volunteer experience".

Support and participation in United Nations projects and advocacy

AWCF participated in workshops and discussion groups of the Asia Pacific Gender Equality Network, with funding from UNDP. Through these activities, AWCF has been able to share its programmes and activities, best practices and experiences to groups outside the cooperative movement while it also benefits from the sharing of best practices and experiences of other networks and movements.

AWCF and its members have undertaken efforts and initiatives in addressing other issues, such as migrant workers, rural women and women in agriculture, women in the labour force, HIV/AIDS and violence against women, by linking with other networks and organizations in general, and through cooperative organizations in particular.

Participation in forums and conferences

AWCF participated in a number of regional conferences on various themes and topics addressing the issues of women, gender equality and gender equity, and the economic empowerment of women.

4. Association de volontaires pour le service international

(General consultative status granted in 1996)

AVSI is an international development and humanitarian non-governmental organization which carries out its mission through the planning and implementation of medium and long-term sustainable projects (more than 80 as of December 2003) in partnership with local associations and institutions, international agencies and Governments in more than 30 developing and in transition countries, in the following sectors: education, child development and family support; urban poverty; vocational training, employment and microenterprises support; health, water and sanitation; agriculture and rural development; and emergency relief operations. Some projects are carried out in cooperation with United Nations agencies.

Participation in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

The main United Nations-related events in which AVSI participated are listed below.

2000

UN-HABITAT forum on capacity-building in urban settlements, Capetown, South Africa, September.

2001

Preparatory process for the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, January-February; preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on children, June; special session of the General Assembly on AIDS, June; preparatory process for the International Conference on Financing for Development, October.

2002

Preparatory process for the International Conference on Financing for Development, January; International Conference on Financing for Development, March; special session of the General Assembly on children, May; round table on human resources development, March; NGO Forum on the draft ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2002 of the Council, June; high-level segment itself, July.

2003

Expert group meeting on youth, Geneva, January; Council meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, April; Council meeting and round table in preparation for the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2003 of the Council, April; NGO Forum in preparation for the high-level segment, June; high-level segment itself, July; annual session of the Commission for Social Development.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Several humanitarian and technical assistance projects have been carried out with UNICEF, inter alia, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2002; in Romania in 2000; in Rwanda in 2000; and in Uganda in 2001. In addition, AVSI contributed to a number of other UNICEF reports and projects.

AVSI cooperated with UNDP in humanitarian and technical assistance projects in Jordan in 2003; in Kosovo in 2001; and in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in 2000.

AVSI cooperated with WFP on humanitarian and technical assistance projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2002; in Rwanda in 2002; and in Uganda in 2002. AVSI attended a meeting held in Rome in November 2003 on the theme "An enhanced role of Italian NGOs in WFP humanitarian interventions".

AVSI cooperated with FAO on a humanitarian and technical assistance project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2002.

AVSI cooperated with UNIDO on a technical assistance project in Argentina in 2003 and participated in numerous sessions of UNIDO in Vienna.

AVSI cooperated with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2002.

Main initiatives to support goals and objectives of the United Nations

In August 2000, AVSI organized a seminar, with the participation, among others, of UNCTAD, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the World Bank, as a preparatory event for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II). In June 2001, AVSI, together with the Office of Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations, organized a symposium on the theme "Children in armed conflict: everyone's responsibility" at United Nations Headquarters, as a contribution to the special session of the General Assembly on children.

In September-October 2003, AVSI mounted a photographic exhibition at the United Nations Office at Geneva on its activities in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo in support of the initiatives of the United Nations and its agencies in sub-Saharan Africa.

5. Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations

(Special consultative status granted in 1996)

The Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations (FEMA) is the representative European organization of motorcyclists. It exists to protect and advance the interests of persons who use motorcycles and scooters for transportation and recreation. FEMA does not represent the interests of competition motorcyclists. As a consumers representative organization, FEMA is primarily concerned with vehicle technical regulations, road traffic laws and regulations and a wide range of road safety issues from the perspective of the rider of powered two-wheelers. FEMA

represents its member national riders' organizations in legislative and regulatory bodies, such as the Commission and the Parliament of the European Union and in the Working Groups of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) of the Economic Commission for Europe.

In the period covered by this quadrennial report, FEMA membership has grown steadily, with applications for membership coming from motorcycle riders' organizations in the Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey. A very important development in the period is that an arrangement has been agreed between FEMA and three other motorcyclists' organizations recognized as non-governmental organizations by the United Nations. Together with the American Motorcyclists Association (AMA), the Federation internationale de motocyclisme (FIM) and the Motorcycle Riders' Federation of the United States of America (MRF), FEMA has formed an international coalition. Its purpose is to provide for greater and more cost-effective participation in the global harmonization of vehicle regulations process, road rules and road safety issues within the agencies of the United Nations.

Global harmonization of vehicle technical standards

From 2000-2003, FEMA has represented its member organizations and AMA, FIM and MRF at all of the meetings of ECE/ITC Working Party 29 (WP.29). FEMA's Assistant General Secretary attended a total of 12 four-day meetings. FEMA has been particularly interested and involved in the development of global technical regulations (GTRs) concerning powered two-wheelers under the 1998 Global Harmonization Agreement. In this context, FEMA submitted three informal documents to WP.29. These concerned test cycles and performance requirements, the dangerous consequences of diesel spillage from commercial vehicles and motorcycle issues that should be given priority for the development of GTRs. FEMA representatives have also participated extensively in the informal groups and fundamental elements groups that have been established to develop GTRs for motorcycle exhaust emissions and motorcycle brakes.

FEMA has also participated in the two round tables organized by ECE/ITC on future fuels and intelligent transport systems (ITS). On the latter subject, FEMA participated in all the meetings of the ITS informal group that was established by WP.29 and submitted to that body an informal document which addressed principles of ITS tolerance of non-compatible vehicles and non-exclusion from public roads of non-ITS compatible vehicles.

Road safety, road rules and regulations

In the period covered by the present report, representatives of FEMA have attended all but one of the meetings of ECE/ITC Working Party 1 (WP.1). FEMA also participated in the work of two special working groups established by WP.1. The first addressed ways of improving motorcycle safety. Within this group, FEMA has actively participated in the development of a detailed questionnaire to contracting parties on their approach to motorcycle safety issues and the measures they have undertaken that have had a positive effect. The other special working group is undertaking the preliminary stages of a review of the overtaking provisions within the Vienna Convention and the consolidated resolutions. FEMA has focused on the development of a section of a questionnaire to contracting parties on their legal provisions regarding motorcyclists overtaking slow-moving or stopped traffic.

FEMA has also participated in seminars organized by WP.1 on road signs and markings and aggressive driving. At the road signs and markings seminar, FEMA made a presentation on the hazards that road signs and markings can often unintentionally create for the riders of powered two-wheelers. At the aggressive driving seminar, FEMA was a member of the Panel and responded to questions from participants.

In the period covered by the present report, FEMA has actively supported the establishment of a global road safety forum within the agencies of the United Nations.

6. Fondazione Giovanni e Francesca Falcone

(Special consultative status granted in 1996)

The Foundation Giovanni e Francesca Falcone was constituted in Palermo in December 1992. Since 1993, the Italian Government has recognized the Foundation as a not-for-profit institution devoted to social causes.

According to its statute, the principal aim of the Foundation is to implement high social interest initiatives, such as the promotion of study, research and cultural and assistance activities in order to promote the development of the anti-mafia culture in the society and in particular among young people, as well as the promotion of professional specialization in the investigative and judicial apparatuses committed in the action of prevention and fight against mafia organized crime.

In the social and cultural commitment of the Foundation, special attention is reserved for the pedagogical and educational problems of youth, with the aim of giving them a permanent education in law-abiding behaviour through social and cultural initiatives. In addition, the Foundation's aim is to spur integration and cooperation among the European and international judicial system for a more effective coordination among all the States and the agencies concerned with the prevention and repression of organized crime for a more rapid and effective action.

The ways to carry out these aims are: organizing meetings, seminars, training and educational courses; preparing, commissioning, printing, editing and disseminating research publications; establishing scholarships; and cooperating with other Italian or foreign foundations or associations with similar aims. Since 1992, the Foundation has carried out many activities which contributed to increasing its national and international reputation.

A. Participation in United Nations meetings and collaboration with United Nations bodies

In May 2000, the Foundation organized and hosted a meeting on the theme "From the ad hoc tribunals (former Yugoslavia and Rwanda) to a permanent court". In December 2000, the Foundation participated in the activities concerning the Signing Conference for the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Palermo, Italy. In January 2003, the Foundation participated in the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, held in Vienna.

B. Meetings, seminars, training and educational courses

Every year, the Foundation organizes a number of meetings, with the participation of Italian and foreign experts, in the area of organized crime and corruption. The Foundation is also committed to the promotion of the culture against mafia in our society, through activities (meetings, conferences and lecturers) for elementary, high-school and university students in Italy and abroad.

C. Publications

The Foundation issued five publications, *Educazione alla legalità* and *Scritti sul Minore in memoria di Francesca Laura Morvillo*.

D. Scholarships

The Foundation grants, each year, 10 scholarships to young Sicilian law graduates. These scholarships are utilized for studies and research on organized crime, to develop the anti-mafia culture and to contribute to the prevention of and fight against organized mafia crime. To date, the Foundation has completed 64 research projects.

Other relevant activities

The Foundation also took part in a seminar on Italian legal system and laws to contest mafia, held in New York in May 2000. During various meetings, seminars and lectures, the Foundation has taken the opportunity to stress the importance and the commitment of all the persons involved in the different United Nations bodies fighting international organized crime to improve the culture of the rule of law and respect for human rights.

7. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

(Special consultative status granted in 1996)

The Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd is an international organization founded in 1835 to work with women and girls who were marginalized by the society of their time. In varying forms of direct service projects, this continues to be our primary focus, with an emphasis on working to enable and empower women to create a better life for themselves and their families. Through our affiliation with the goals of the United Nations, we seek to extend mercy to the poor and oppressed, awakening in our world the dignity and value of each person.

During our years of affiliation with the United Nations, the Congregation of the Good Shepherd has increased its own awareness of and support for the goals and activities of the United Nations. The organization has a full-time representative in New York who participates in major meetings of the Council and its subsidiary bodies. She is responsible for disseminating information and encouraging local participation concerning United Nations activities across the organization. Our local members use that information to reach thousands of women in grass-roots situations with a view to supporting initiatives in development, empowerment and the defence of human rights.

The organization appoints an NGO regional representative for Geneva and to ECA and ECE. These persons, while having other full-time responsibilities, are able to maintain awareness and communication of United Nations activities. Good Shepherd expects that affiliation with the United Nations will continue to inform our own mission in relevant ways while affording us the opportunity to continue to bring to the United Nations the voice and the concerns of women and girls across the more than 60 countries in which we are active.

Participation in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

Good Shepherd is actively involved in collaborative work involving the Millennium Development Goals. It is an active member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and has worked in collaboration with the Division for the Advancement of Women. The organization has submitted written statements to the Commission on the Status of Women and has organized NGO side events at its sessions.

Good Shepherd participated in the work of the Commission on Social Development, notably through the anti-poverty task force of the NGO Committee on Social Development.

At the special session of the General Assembly on children, Good Shepherd was active with the NGO Committee on UNICEF Working Group on Girls in preparing side events and in advocating for document language supportive of rights for the girl child. Good Shepherd was an active participant in the Child Rights Caucus and collaborated in the preparation of the text of the Childs Rights Caucus.

Good Shepherd participated in the finance for development process in 2001-2003 and, through collaboration with the NGO Committee on Social Development, has contributed statements and discussion to the various segments and meetings of that Committee.

Good Shepherd has been a supportive observer of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues each year, and makes information available to the organization's grass-roots members who do social service with indigenous populations.

Good Shepherd sends information out to local affiliates on the Convention on All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and encourages the use of women's education in the Convention.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The organization is affiliated with DPI; the NGO representative attends DPI briefings and disseminates material from such briefings through organizational newsletters. Good Shepherd has distributed materials on United Nations instruments in English, French and Spanish, and used such material in international training for the organization.

Members of the organization submitted national information to the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, following a call for country-based report on violence against women, in August 2001. The NGO attended an introductory meeting with the newly appointed Rapporteur and, following her request for such communication, submitted a position letter on trafficking/prostitution in November 2003.

Good Shepherd contributed to the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders by providing information/consultations on trafficking/prostitution to the Permanent Delegate of the Holy See in February 2000.

Other relevant activity

The organization has had consistent and substantial activity in the NGO committee Working Group on Girls of the NGO Committee of UNICEF; the International Network for Girls; the Coalition against Trafficking of Women; the NGO Committee on the Status of Women; the NGO Committee on Social Development; the Poverty Eradication Subcommittee; and the NGO Committee on UNIFEM. The organization attended the Asian Civil Society Forum in December 2002, and participated in a poverty eradication study submitted to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in August 2003.